

Miltenberger, Molly

From: Lorette Carter <shbcdc@3rivers.net>
Sent: Wednesday, January 23, 2013 1:59 PM
To: Miltenberger, Molly
Cc: 'Larry Bonderud'; Wisemiller, Tash; Jones, Llew; 'Rob Cook'
Subject: City of Shelby support for the Montana Main Street Program

Importance: High

Dear Molly,

On behalf of the City of Shelby I would like to express our support of the Montana Main Street Program.

Shelby is rural agricultural community of 3,376. As most rural Montana, we are faced with an out-migration of shoppers to urban centers and on-line sources; aging stores and decreased foot traffic. With this, has come business closures, job loss and the loss of primary services and resources. We have been fortunate to partner with the Montana Main Street Program to offer several workshops and seminars for the benefit of our Main Street business community in developing and sustaining downtown areas as well as community promotions and event ideas.

The Main Street Program encourages communities to use their unique assets- distinctive architecture, pedestrian friendly atmosphere, local ownership, and personal services to strengthen their downtowns. City officials have initiated design and economic restructuring through our business district assessment and follow-up with Main Street technical assistance. We have created a strong partnership with the Shelby Area Chamber of Commerce and Shelby Merchant Association in organizing and promoting events and activities geared toward strengthening downtown.

The Main Street has been invaluable to the community of Shelby in focusing our energies for a common goal in Main Street development and sustainability as "Shelby-America's Crossroads".

Sincerely,
Lorette Carter

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